

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 DRC-01 IO-14 /145 W

----- 111296

R 281500Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5117

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AR, LE

SUBJECT: VISIT OF LEBANESE FONMIN FOUAD NAFFAH DRAWS LITTLE
ATTENTION

REF MEXICO 464 AND BOGOTA 533

1. SUMMARY. THE VISIT OF LEBANES FONMIN FOUAD NAFFAH PASSED,
PARTLY BECAUSE OF DOMESTIC POLITICAL EVENTS, WITH A MINIMUM OF
PUBLIC NOTICE. NAFFAH WAS ABLE TO HAVE A SHORT AUDIENCE WITH
PERON AND WAS FOREIGN MINISTER VIGNES'S GUEST AT A LUNCHEON
ATTENDED BY SEVERAL SENIOR GOA OFFICIALS. END SUMMARY

2. ONLY FRONT PAGE COVERAGE GIVEN TO NAFFAH VISIT WAS SHORT
ARTICLE IN LA NACION REPORTING HIS VISIT WITH PERON AND LUNCHEON
GIVEN IN HIS HONOR BY GOA FONMIN. DURING LUNCHEON NAFFAH WAS
GIVEN "ORDER OF MAY" SWORD BY VIGNES.

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3. IN ONLY SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS CARRIED IN INSIDE PAGES OF LOCAL PRESS, NAFFAH STATED THAT ARABS WANT ISRAEL TO RETURN TO PRE-1967 BORDERS, AND CLAIMED THAT HIGH OIL COSTS WER FAULT OF INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES AND WORLD INFLATION. HE ADDED THAT ISRAEL MUST ALSO RECOGNIZE THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINE PEOPLE TO SELF-DETERMINATION.

4. IN FINAL COMMUNIQUE, VIGNES PLEDGED HIS SUPPORT FOR RES 242 AND NAFFAH ASSURED ARGENTINA OF HIS SUPPORT FOR GOA POSITION ON MALVINAS (FALKLAND) ISSUE.

5. COMMENT. BECAUSE ARGENTINA PRODUCES 90 PERCENT OF ITS OWN OIL NEEDS AND THUS HAS BEEN LESS AFFECTED BY ARAB OIL POLICIES THAN HAVE MOST LA'S, NAFFAH'S VISIT NOT PERCEIVED AS MAJOR EVENT. IN ADDITION PUBLIC PREOCCUPATION WITH DOMESTIC EVENTS (TERRORISM) INSURED THAT LEBANESE VISITOR WOULD BE RELEGATED TO INSIDE PAGES.
KREBS

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Message Attributes

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